Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

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FM AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9083 INFO AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

CONFIDENTIAL PORT AU PRINCE 0069

DEPT FOR ARA/FM SANTO DIMINGO FOR RSO

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AFSP, ASEC, HA

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR ALLOTMENT INCREASE: ANTI-TERRORIST PRECAUTIONS

REF: (1) STATE 284272, 12/31/74, PARA.3; (2) EMBOM 11/22/74, I/D#1-PROGRAM; (3) PAP A-179, 11/22/74, I/D#4-SHARED; (4) PAP DEC. 73 FINANCIAL PLAN

BEGIN SUMMARY: AT THIS POST WHERE CHIEF OF MISSION WAS KIDNAPPED LESS THAN THREE YEARS AGO, WE ARE CONCERNED THAT BUDGET STRINGENCIES COULD REDUCE OUT ANTI-TERRORIST PRECAUTIONARY ACTIVITIES TO LEVEL WHICH WOULD NO LONGER SERVE AS EFFECTIVE DETERRENT. THIS MESSAGE PROVIDES INFORMATION AND JUSTIFICATION REQUIRED BY REF. (1). APPROVAL OF NECESSARY INCREASE OF \$10,710 IN POST ALLOTMENT IS URGENTLY REQUESTED. END SUMMARY.

1. REF. (4) SUBMITTED AS EMBASSY'S FINANCIAL PLAN WAS GEARED DOWN TO FIT WITHIN 1973 GENERAL REDUCTION LEVEL FOR PAP ALLOTMENT. THAT PART OF SPECIAL PLAN RELATED TO ANTITERRORIST FUNDS FOR AMBASSADOR'S BODY GUARDS (ABG) WAS ESTIMATE ONLY SINCE NEW AMBASSADOR HAD NOT YET ARRIVED AT POST. ALSO, EXPANDED GUARD FORCE WAS AT THAT TIME ENVISIONED AS BEING SUPERVISED BY GSO IN SAME MANNER AS GUARDS ON FUNDED POSITIONS. THE INCREASE IN WORKLOAD, OVERCROWDING OF ADMINISCONFIDENTIAL

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TRATIVE SECTION, AND NEED FOR GUARDS TO BE SUPERVISED/CHECKED

DURING NIGHT BY ROVING INSPECTOR (USUALLY THE GSO OR ADMIN OFFICER) BECAME UNBEARABLE AND EMBASSY WAS OBLIGED TO GO TO GUARD CONTRACT. THIS HAS PROVED TO BE HIGHLY EFFECTIVE WAY TO MANAGE GUARDS, BUT NECESSARILY RESULTED IN ADDITIONAL COSTS FOR OVERHEAD/MANAGEMENT CHARGES DUE TO CONTRACTOR. THIS CONTRACT BECAME EFFECTIVE IN MAY 74 AND WAS REFLECTED IN EMBASSY'S BUDGET AND GOING RATE (SEE PAP A-83, 6/21/74 AND A-86, 6/25/74) SUBMISSIONS

- 2. WHEN POST RECEIVED INITIAL ALLOTMENT, DS-150 DATED 9/9/74, WE FELT CERTAIN THAT LEVEL OF FUNDS REQUESTED FOR GUARD CONTRACT HAD BEEN APPROVED SINCE ANNUALIZATION OF ALL PRICE INCREASES INCLUDED WAGE INCREASE FOR GUARDS UNDER NEW GUARD CONTRACT. WE ALSO RECOGNIZED THAT FUNDS FOR ANNUALIZATION OF GUARD CONTRACT PER SE WERE NOT GRANTED AND REQUESTED FUNDING FOR THESE COSTS VIA REFS (2) AND (3) ABOVE.
- 3. FOR BOTH ABG AND GUARD CONTRACT THERE HAVE BEEN NO PRICE INCREASES OTHER THAN THOSE REPORTED IN BUDGET SUBMISSION.
- 4. EMBASSY SECURITY WATCH COMMITTEE HAS REVIEWED LEVEL OF SERVICE PROVIDED UNDER GUARD CONTRACT AND FEELS THAT IT IS MINIMUM ACCEPTABLE COMMENSURATE WITH CURRENT SECURITY SITUATION IN HAITI. FURTHERMORE, RSO HAS REVIEWED BOTH CONTRACT AND ABG AND CONCURRED IN THE NEED FOR AND LEVELS OF THESE OPERATIONS. IT WOULD BE GROSSLY IMPRUDENT TO SUPPOSE THAT TERRORISTIC ACTIVITIES ARE UNLIKELY TO RECUR AT THIS POST. FOR RECENT EXAMPLES, SEE PAP 1727 (9/4/74), PAP 0837 (5/8/74), PAP A-84 (6/21/74) AND PAP A-3 (1/10/75).
- 5. POST HAS NOW FUNDED SIX MONTHS' ACTUAL EXPENDITURES FOR BOTH TYPES OF ANTI-TERRORIST PRECAUTIONS AND FINDS THAT PROJECTION THESE LEVELS THROUGH END OF FY-75 FUNDS REQUESTED IN REF (2) FOR ABG SHOULD BE SUFFICIENT. THIS OF COURSE COULD CHANGE IF AMBASSADOR'S IN-COUNTRY TRAVEL SHOULD INCREASE SINCE TWO GUARDS TRAVEL WITH HIM AT ALL TIMES.
- 6. BY NECESSITY OUR STATEMENT ON GUARD CONTRACT RE EXTRA GUARDS WAS VAGUE DUE TO UNCLASSIFIED OM. NORMALLY KEY USG RESIDENCES HAVE ONLY DUSK TO DAWN COVERAGE BUT WHEN LOCAL CONFIDENTIAL

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SITUATION BECOMES TENSE (DUE TO EXPLOSIONS, BOMB THREATS, ETC.) ADDITIONAL GUARDS ARE PLACED AT SENSITIVE USG PROPERTIES ON 24-HOUR BASIS.

7. BASED ON 1ST AND 2ND QUARTER ACTUAL EXPENDITURES, PROJECTED THROUGH END OF FY-75, FUNDS REQUESTED IN REFS (2) AND (3) SHOULD BE ADEQUATE. THIS OF COURSE COULD CHANGE IF TERRORIST ACTIVITIES SHOULD INCREASE APPRECIABLY.

8. EMBASSY FEELS ABOVE PROVIDES ARA WITH SUFFICIENT DETAILS ON PRESENT LEVELS OF ANTI-TERRORIST REQUIREMENTS AT THIS POST, THOUGH WE WILL OF COURSE ANSWER ANY SPECIFIC QUESTIONS WHICH DEPARTMENT MAY HAVE. POST URGENTLY REQUESTS BUREAU TO AUTHORIZE AN INCREASE IN OUR POST ALLOTMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$10,710 FOR THESE PRUPOSES. OTHERWISE, IT WILL BE NECESSARY TO CANCEL THE GUARD CONTRACT ENTIRELY OR TO REDUCE ITS COVERAGE TO INEFFECTUAL LEVEL.

9. PLEASE ADVISE TELEGRAPHICALLY. THOMSON

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